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Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Mid-Year Report against Long Term Planning Framework

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAKP002

31 August 2012

**This report covers the
period 1 January to 30
June 2012.**

DPRK Red Cross and IFFRC work with communities to identify disaster risk areas through activities such as hazard mapping; in this instance, in Songchon county, south Pyongan province.
Photo: DPRK RCS.



Overview

DPRK is vulnerable to different kinds of natural disasters, and is in the process of setting up and improving early warning systems and disaster preparedness activities. Proper assessment of the overall situation in the country for the entire population and particularly the most vulnerable groups remains a main challenge, as international organizations do not have permission to access certain areas.

The food security situation has further deteriorated, but the absence of significant reliable statistics makes a proper assessment of the situation very difficult. A similar tendency in the health situation is noted; many clinics are in urgent need of rehabilitation, and turnover of distributed drugs is higher than before. Meanwhile, the plan to reduce drugs distribution through the Red Cross and resume this responsibility under the country's ministry of health began this year, with the procurement and distribution of essential drugs reduced from every quarter to three times a year. In water and sanitation, the programme was able to implement its activities in 9 out of 15 communities as planned. In the remaining 6 communities, preparatory activities has started or will start soon in the third quarter of 2012, as a result of delayed incoming funds.

After the sudden and unexpected passing of the leader of the DPRK in December, his son assumed the reins of power. The first six months of 2012 have been a period of watching and waiting to see how he will consolidate his position as leader of the country. So far, the transition has been very smooth.

DPRK faced several disasters in the first two quarters of 2012. In April/May the entire country a draught that resulted in the fear of a massive decline in crop yield. In the middle of June, a flash flood took communities by surprise and displaced about 3,000 people in Tokson and Sinhung counties and damaged crops and infrastructures. Following this, a further series of flooding displaced approximately 154,000 people. The DPRK Red Cross Society (DPRK RCS) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) provided relief assistance to about 9,000 families (40,000 people) in coordination with other agencies and the government. As a result, a substantial amount of time and resources were diverted to respond to the emergency situation. DPRK RCS has disaster preparedness stocks for up to 22,000 families, strategically located in seven warehouses throughout the country, ready for immediate deployment.

While the situation remains tense on the Korean peninsula, no serious incidents have occurred during the first half of 2012, and relations with Japan have improved.

DPRK RCS has received consistent support over the last decade from IFRC, its sister Red Cross Red Crescent societies who function under the umbrella of the cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) and their donor governments, as well as from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The need for humanitarian support through the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and other international organizations is still acute, particularly in the areas of food, health, water and sanitation and disaster management.

Working in partnership

The DPRK Red Cross works in the framework of a three-year cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) with nine partner national societies: Australian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and Swedish Red Cross. The current CAS agreement up to 2012 was signed in October 2009. The next CAS agreement will be signed in September 2012.

The DPRK LTPF is supported by British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross/German government, Japanese Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross/Norwegian government, and Swedish Red Cross/Swedish government, as well as the New Zealand government.

At county, provincial, and national level, the ministries of public health, city management, people’s security, and land and environmental protection contribute with technical advice and material support to the Red Cross programmes. Collaboration with UN agencies consists of information exchange as well as the agreement on the contents of the medical kits, the role division in disaster response situations, and training initiatives in different areas. The Red Cross also benefits from specialized expertise of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) active in the DPRK, where they are called European Union Project Support (EUPS) units, including Save the Children, Concern, and others.

Progress towards outcomes

Business Line 1 “To raise humanitarian standards”

Measurement				
Outcome/Output/Indicators	Baseline (Where available)	LTPF 4-year target	Actual this report period	Actual to Date
Outcome 1: DPRK Red Cross is enabled and inspired to increase the magnitude, quality and impact of their services.				
Output 1.1: DPRK Red Cross has contributed to the global IFRC databank process to profile their services, strengths and gaps.				
<i>NS has contributed initial information to the databank.</i>	0	Input provided	N/A	N/A

Comments on progress towards outcomes
The IFRC country office, supported and guided by the East Asia regional office, will encourage the National Society to contribute towards the global IFRC databank as a part of a regional initiative. This initiative will be introduced and shared with East Asian National Societies at relevant management and leadership meetings.

Business Line 2 "To grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people"

Measurement				
Outcome/Output/Indicators	Baseline (Where available)	LTPF 4-year target	Actual this report period	Actual to Date
Outcome 1: The DPRK Red Cross is better prepared to work with targeted communities and to respond to disasters and crises events in a timely manner.				
Output 1.1: The DPRK Red Cross has well defined roles in national response and recovery mechanisms, as well as recognition among authorities.				
<i>Red Cross profile increased within the government, UN agencies and NGOs as a first step to introduce shelter sector for emergency and to establish Red Cross as a lead agency in coordinating shelter sector.</i>	0	Input provided	Comment below.	
Output 1.2: The DPRK Red Cross has capacity to provide timely relief, emergency health and water sanitation services to affected populations in a timely and efficient manner.				
<i>85% of disaster response and recovery operations have positive evaluations on relevance, speed and effectiveness (evaluations/reviews).</i>	0	85%	Comment below.	

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Output 1.1: DPRK Red Cross aims to increase its profile through a number of activities including regular participation in response and coordination meetings with government authorities and other INGOs; this is ongoing.

Output 1.2: The first evaluation for last year's flood response is due in the third quarter and will be reported against in the next development operational report and 6-month update of the LTPF.

Business Line 3 "To strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development"

Measurement				
Outcome/Output/Indicators	Baseline (Where available)	LTPF 4-year target	Actual this report period	Actual to Date
Outcome 1: Improved medical services focusing on maternal, newborn and child health care.				
Output 1.1: The essential medicine distribution programme has been scaled down while ensuring the health needs of targeted vulnerable groups.				
<i>75% of current essential medicine distribution has been scaled down to ministry of public health.</i>	100%	Reduced to 25%	Reduced by 25%	Reduced by 25%
Output 1.2: More effective medicine use through training of household doctors in relevant subject areas.				
<i>Clinics manage to use quarterly drug distribution for longer periods of time than previously</i>	0	800 HHD trained	120 HHD trained	15%

Measurement				
Outcome/Output/Indicators	Baseline (Where available)	LTPF 4-year target	Actual this report period	Actual to Date
Output 1.3: The DPRK Red Cross has identified alternative areas of intervention in the area of maternal, newborn and child health care, and started implementation of these new initiatives in close collaboration with relevant authorities.				
<i>75% of entire health and care budget target initiatives do not include drug distribution.</i>	To be measured in following years.			
Outcome 2: The DPRK Red Cross is recognized as a valuable and integral actor in building community safety and resilience.				
Output 2.1: DPRK Red Cross staff and volunteers are trained in the use of IFRC community based tools and methodologies and have adapted and applied them to the local context.				
<i>60% of DPRK Red Cross staff capable of applying community assessments (evaluations/ reviews).</i>	0	200 staff	24 staff	24 staff (12%)
Output 2.2: The DPRK Red Cross has well established rural and urban community based programmes that have integrated aspects of disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, tree planting, health, livelihoods, road safety, voluntary non remunerated blood donation, and other approaches to address vulnerabilities in high risk communities.				
<i>60% of targeted communities are supported with most programme aspects at the same time.</i>	0	See comment below.		
Output 2.3: The first aid programme of the DPRK Red Cross has been improved through the development of a professional first aid training programme and functional first aid posts.				
<i>DPRK Red Cross certified as only first aid provider in-country by MoPH, and trained 50% of volunteers in first aid, including 2-yearly refresher first aid training to first aid post volunteers.</i>	See comment below.			
Output 2.4: Improved access to safe water and sanitation facilitates as well as hygiene promotion in target communities.				
<i>Up to 55 communities targeted have access to safe water at household level</i>	0	55 comms.	9 comms.	9 comms.
<i>15% of the total population in target communities use new latrines</i>	0	15%	2.25%	2.25%
<i>100% beneficiaries receive ongoing hygiene promotion.</i>	0	100%	15%	15%
Outcome 3: The DPRK Red Cross is strengthened through robust organizational structures and systems (human, financial and material) and a wide representation of its stakeholders.				
Output 3.1: The DPRK Red Cross has increased capacity at all levels with a strong volunteer base, able to mobilize the required resources and consistently increase their institutionalized knowledge base and acquire expertise, skills and support to scale up in quantity and quality.				
<i>90% retention rate of volunteers.</i>	0	90%	Comment below.	
<i>10% increase of number of volunteers compared to January 2012</i>	0	10%	Comment below.	

Measurement				
Outcome/Output/Indicators	Baseline (Where available)	LTPF 4-year target	Actual this report period	Actual to Date
Output 3.2: The role of youth has been taken into account in programme design, and the DPRK Red Cross has been supported in their endeavour to engage and empower youth in their Red Cross Red Crescent work				
<i>95% of all programme activities somehow involve youth, where applicable.</i>	0	95%	Comment below.	

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 1.1: Procurement and distribution of medicines was reduced from 4x a year to 3x only in an effort to scale down and realign the responsibility of provision of medicines to the ministry of health. • Output 1.2: Technical support has been extended to the health clinics and communities to further improve utilization of medicines and encourage preventive measures against common illnesses through community-based health and first aid initiatives. The DPRK RCS has six field monitors who visit 70-90 health facilities each month in order to monitor the rational use of medicines. The MoPH provided the impact research report of RC supported medicines in late May 2012. • Output 1.3: Still too early to measure. • Output 2.2: Integration of programmes has been implemented in the following counties in South Phyongan: Pyongwon, Sinyang and Sonchon, and in South Hamgyong: Yongwang and Kumya. The emergency operations in the 10 counties of South Hwanghae province were implemented jointly by DM, Health and water and sanitation. • Output 2.3: In collaboration with MoPH, 20 first aid (FA) master trainers were selected and FA training books were developed and printed. The training will be done in late July. Due to the insufficient funds, FA refill kits were not supplied to the Red Cross FA posts. Hence, most of FA posts are out of stock of necessary materials; some basic consumables and traditional medicines were supported from the Ri-clinics. FA posts and Red Cross volunteers are active and recognized as a valuable base of health promotion and dissemination and psychological support in the communities. • Output 2.4: A total of 1,200 pit latrines were supported for a total community population of 3,294 households. • Outcome 3: Due to limited funding available at the beginning of the year, activities under the organizational development component were kept at a minimum while fundraising efforts with partners are underway. A progress update is expected to be available by the next report.

Business Line 4 “To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work”

Measurement				
Outcome/Output/Indicators	Baseline (Where available)	LTPF 4-year target	Actual this report period	Actual to Date
Outcome 1: The DPRK Red Cross is better positioned and has stronger capacity to achieve the vital goal of helping to protect the most vulnerable.				
Output 1.1: The DPRK Red Cross advocates with relevant authorities on behalf of vulnerable people on issues such as climate change adaptation, risk reduction, social inclusion, and a culture of non-violence.				

Measurement				
Outcome/Output/Indicators	Baseline (Where available)	LTPF 4-year target	Actual this report period	Actual to Date
<i>DPRK Red Cross has managed to influence government policy at least once per year</i>	Comment below			
Output 1.2: DPRK Red Cross communications capacities are strengthened and empowered to deliver messages about Red Cross Red Crescent action, humanitarian imperatives, and values that increase visibility and positive images of the Red Cross Red Crescent among the general public and back to the communities served.				
<i>Increase in number of communication products used within and outside the DPRK Red Cross</i>	Comment below			
Outcome 2: Potential is maximized through existing and potential resources allowing RCRC to achieve its objectives amid a dynamic social and economic environment.				
Output 2.1: The DPRK Red Cross' ability to mobilize technical and financial resources has been strengthened through better relationship management and resource mobilization initiatives and trainings				
<i>75% of all programme activities are implemented jointly with a particular government agency, contributing to the overall impact</i>	Comment below			

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- Outcomes 1 & 2: Due to limited funding available at the beginning of the year, activities under the organizational development component were kept at a minimum while fundraising efforts with partners are underway. A progress update is expected to be available by the next report.

Business Line 5 “To deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability”

Measurement				
Outcome/Output/Indicators	Baseline (Where available)	LTPF 4-year target	Actual this report period	Actual to Date
Outcome 1: DPRK Red Cross works together more effectively in partnerships and alliances within the Red Cross Red Crescent and with external partners.				
Output 1.1: The DPRK Red Cross has effective platforms and mechanisms for Federation-wide coordination, such as the CAS mechanism.				
<i>85% of DPRK Red Cross programmes supported through a pooled funding mechanism and meeting commonly agreed performance and accountability criteria.</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Output 1.2: The DPRK Red Cross coordinates with other NSs to further their own development and potential.				
<i>DPRK Red Cross representatives have participated in at least two exchange visits per year.</i>	0	2/ a year	1	1

Measurement				
Outcome/Output/Indicators	Baseline (Where available)	LTPF 4-year target	Actual this report period	Actual to Date
Outcome 2: The DPRK Red Cross staff have mechanisms and systems in place that support good results based programme management, transparency and accountability.				
Output 2.1: The DPRK Red Cross have increased understanding of PMER tools, have adapted them to local programme context and are able to provide support directly to their counterparts.				
<i>DPRK Red Cross has set up fully functional and decentralized monitoring system to county/provincial branches and through self-monitoring by Red Cross volunteers at the community level monitoring system at branch level (evaluations/reviews).</i>	In progress.			
Output 2.2: Reports, plans and reviews/evaluations are completed and shared in timely manner.				
<i>95% of all reports, plans, and reviews/evaluations are submitted before the deadline.</i>	0	95%	To be measured at 12-month mark.	

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcome 1 & 2: Progress against these outputs (such as Outputs 1.1 and 2.1) are expected to take place over time and through fine-tuning of the respective programmes

Stakeholder participation and feedback

DPRK RCS and IFRC work in close collaboration with its CAS partners, the selected communities that receive Red Cross Red Crescent support, as well as national and local government offices and other international governmental and non-governmental organizations present in the country. Communities the government offices are consulted on a regular basis over the course of access, implementation and monitoring of activities planned. Informal reports are also produced and shared with all partners on a monthly basis.

Externally, partner national societies are frequently invited to participate in various monitoring visits carried out by the National Society and IFRC where programmes are implemented. The country office, through its respective technical delegates, also collaborate closely with partner national societies on a regular basis, monitoring implementation and fundraising. Furthermore, CAS meetings are organized twice a year to update and share among all partners the latest situation in-country, as well as strategy and support needed and available related to ongoing programmes.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
Political and security situation causes problems in funding and/or in implementation	L	Economic sanctions are beyond our control.

Lack of adequate technical skills, human and material resources in the national society	M	Higher expectations on our national staff.
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Lessons learned and looking ahead

A recommendation moving forward with the water and sanitation programme is to proceed with the quotation and tender as and when donor funds are sufficient to cover each community, as opposed to consolidating all funds before approaching the tender and procurement process. Due to the small windows of opportunity for communities to participate in construction throughout the year: March/April (between the winter and the rice planting) and September-November (between the flood season/rice harvest and the winter), it is imperative that the materials are in place, otherwise, implementation would be delayed as a result.

Looking ahead, a budget revision will take place in quarter 3, in line with the materialization of commitments of funding from donors whose financial year begins in July up to the following June. Preparations for the next plan of action (2013) will also take place in this time, together with the signing of the next CAS agreement and a review of the implementation of the 2012 plan.

Financial situation

[Click here to go directly to the financial report.](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\)](#) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org

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